

Message Text

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44

ACTION NEA-10

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 EA-09 AID-05 EB-07 IGA-02 OMB-01 TRSE-00

CIAE-00 DODE-00 PM-04 H-02 INR-07 L-03 NSAE-00 NSC-05

PA-02 PRS-01 SP-02 SS-15 USIA-15 ACDA-10 SAJ-01

FEAE-00 OES-06 COME-00 INT-05 /113 W

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R 091125Z JUL 76

FM AMEMBASSY KATHMANDU

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 5635

UNCLS KATHMANDU 2977

E.O. 11652 N/A

TAGS: EAID NO

SUBJ: FOREIGN AID - CHINESE IRRIGATION/HYDEL
PROJECT

1. CHINA HAS AGREED TO UNDERTAKE THE CONSTRUCTION OF A 1,000-KW HYDROELECTRIC PLANT AND IRRIGATION PROJECT IN POKHARA VALLEY. THE DAM WILL BE ON THE SETI RIVER, NORTHWEST OF POKHARA TOWN. THE PROJECT INCLUDES CONSTRUCTION OF A DISTRIBUTION SYSTEM FOR IRRIGATION OF 1,200 HECTARES OF LAND. AS USUAL, IN ADDITION TO THE SUPPLY OF EQUIPMENT AND TECHNICIANS, THE PROJECT AGREEMENT PROVIDES FOR THE SALE OF CHINESE GOODS IN NEPAL TO RAISE MONEY FOR LOCAL COSTS. TENTATIVE ESTIMATE OF THE TOTAL COST OF THE PROJECT IS RS. 50 MILLION (\$4 MILLION).

2. THIS IS THE FIRST NEW MAJOR CHINESE AID PROJECT IN NEPAL SINCE THE SIGNING OF THE POKHARA-SURKHET HILLS ROAD AGREEMENT IN FEBRUARY 1975. IN ADDITION, THE UNDP IS FINANCING RECONSTRUCTION OF POKHARA'S PHEWS LAKE DAM, WHICH WILL RESTORE ANOTHER MEGAWATT OF POWER, RESULTING IN A TOTAL OF TWO MEGAWATTS OF HYDROELECTRIC CAPACITY WITHIN POKHARA VALLEY PROPER.

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NNN

Message Attributes

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